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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Albania

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SUBJECT Military Identification Documents / Certain Reserve
Corps Regulations

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1. [] knowledge of military papers in use in the Albanian Armed Forces []
Following is a list of all [] the documents which a soldier, NCO or
officer might carry from his period of induction to his separation from service. Note that
these documents are identifications, off-duty permits, transfer certificates etc. -- documents
carried by military personnel outside their particular units.

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(a) Flete-Thirrje (Order of Call)

An individual receives this document in two situations.

- (1) The first time he is called to the Zyra Rekrutimit (Recruiting Office) to do his compulsory Para-Ushtarak (pre-military training).
- (2) Whenever, as a member of the Reserve (soldier, NCO or officer), he is called up for a period of military training or called before his Zyra Rekrutimit to give additional information.

The document in both situations is issued in the same way: Handed to the individual by a member of the Sigurimi Shtetit (S.SH. -- Security Police) if he lives in a city or town, by the Polic-Lokaliteti or the Polak-Katundi respectively if he lives in a locality or a village. The document is issued by the Zyra Rekrutimit of the region (or of the City of Tirana).

(b) Flete-Leje (Permit)

This document is carried by soldiers and NCO's (NCO's doing their compulsory military service and those making the Army their career) in the following situations:

- (1) At all times outside the military unit. The Flete-Leje serves as a personal Identity Card. Issued necessary even if leaving barracks for half an hour only.
- (2) For soldiers and non-career NCO's, issued for periods up to a maximum of 30 days' leave.
- (3) For career NCO's this document must be accompanied by the Libreze Rroge (Pay Book). The Flete-Leje of the career NCO differs from that of the soldier or non-career NCO in that:

--It bears only date of issue

--Date and time of return to unit are left blank (at least in case of, for example, a career NCO stationed in Durrës who might sleep in the town with his family)

--Time of return to unit indicated if the man is sleeping in barracks, but date of expiration is left blank.

- (4) For soldiers and both types of NCO's for periods not exceeding one month for either temporary transfer to another unit or a mission to another unit stationed in a different place. In this situation the Flete-Leje bears additional statements on the place of destination and due date of return.

The validity of a Flete-Leje in all situations listed above applies only for the place (city, town, locality or village) for which issued -- not even for another village only two km away.

(c) Flete-Izolimi (Individual Permit)

This document is carried by soldiers, NCO's and officers in the following situations:

- (1) To accompany other documents when sent on a mission or transferred to another unit.
- (2) For career NCO's and officers as a leave permit, in a period of 25 days' leave.
- (3) For all military personnel, a sick-leave document -- for soldiers and non-career NCO's the only military document needed in this situation to demonstrate that the individual's military papers are in order (document duly countersigned and stamped at the Zyra Rekrutimit concerned).

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The Flete-Izolimi is a white form document, the first paragraph being printed. The remaining statements are added in typewriter for the individual case. Paper is about 11½ x 8½ inches. A typical Flete-Izolimi might read thus:

VF
Ushtrijs Popullore Shqiprise
Reparti Ushtarak Nr 1750
Nr.....Prot.

LP

Durrës

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FLETE - IZOLIMI

Ushtaraku Abaz Rexhepi shenja personale ska efektiv i Repartit Ushtarak Nr: 1750 i date-lindjes 1929, lindun dhe banus ne Tirane shkon me leje shendetsore prej dates 8/8/1952 deri me daten 8/8/1953, prane familjes tij Tirane. te Komisionit Mediko Legal raport mjeksor Nr/135, te spitalit Perqjithshem Ushtarak.

Per njoftim ushtaraku i nalt permendun ti paraqitet Garnizonit te Rrethit ose qytetit ku shkon afer familjes.

Mbas kryerjes te lejes shendetsore te paraqitet ne Rep. efektiv.

As nji autoritet Ushtarak dhe civil nuk autorizohet per ndryshimin ose zgjatjen e lejes. E per cdo nevoje shendetsore ti paraqitet Spitalit ose ndihmes shpejt ma te afert.

USHTRIJA POPULLORE SHQIPRISE
KOMANDA REPARTIT USHTARAK nr 1750

KOLONEL (Teki - Koloneci)
Vula Firma

[translation]

VF
Albanian People's Army
Military Unit Nr. 1750
Nr....Prot.

LP

Durrës

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INDIVIDUAL PERMIT

Soldier Abaz Rexhepi, who has no particular identifying marks, belonging to Military Unit No. 1750, born 1929, Tirane, where he resides with his family, is herewith granted sick leave [redacted] per medical report of the Medical Legal Commission Nr. 135 of the General Military Hospital.

Soldier must report to the nearest Garrison of the region in which he lives with his family.

Upon expiration of sick leave, holder must report to the Military Unit to which he belongs.

No military or civilian authority may extend validity of present sick leave permit. Any medical attention required for soldier should be obtained through the nearest hospital to which soldier must apply. [sic]

Albanian People's Army
Headquarters of Military Unit No. 1750
Colonel (signed, Teki Koloneci)
(stamp)

(d) Flete-Thirrje-Nen-Arme (Order of Draft)

This document is served only when an individual is drafted for actual military service.

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(e) Leter-Njofitimit-Oficeravet (Officer's Identification Card)

We have only limited information on this document. It is issued to career officers only, not to Reserve officers. Only military authorities may order an officer to display it. Officers identify themselves to civilian authorities with the normal Leter-Njofitimit (Identification Card) used by any civilian. We believe this holds true for career NCO's as well.

(f) Urdher-Cmobilizimi (Order of Discharge)

This document is used only upon the initial discharge at the completion of the induction term of service. Used for all ranks, including Reserve officers. Discharges of re-drafts, after periodic training, are certified in the Librez-Ushtarak (Military Book) of a soldier or NCO, in the Librez-Ushtarak Per Oficera Rezerve of a Reserve officer. The Urdher-Cmobilizimi is no longer issued to re-drafts.

(g) authorization for reserved bus seat with Agjensise-Pasagjeravet

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[] confirms the existence of such a document for military personnel. It is issued to all ranks in the event that individual X is sent on a mission from his command to X locality, and the military command does not supply the individual with a bus or train ticket prior to departure. It establishes ticket priority in the same way as a civilian Urdher-Sherbimi (Work order). The ticket authorization is written, not printed, on white paper, about 7/8 by 8 1/8 inches. A typical authorization might read thus:

VF
Ushtrija Popullore Shqiprise
Repartit Ushtarak Nr.....
Nr.....Prot.

LP

Shkoder []

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AGJENSISE - PASAGJERAVETShkoder

Ushtaraku.....shkon me sherbim
per nevojat e kesaj Komande, prandaj ti rezervohet vendi.

USHTRIJA POPULLORE SHQIPRISE
KOMANDA REPARTIT USHTARAK Nr.

KOMISARI
(.....)
Firma

Vula

KOMANDANTI
(.....)
Firma

*** ** *

/translation/

VF
Albanian People's Army
Military Unit No..
Nr.....Prot

lp

Shkoder []

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For: PASSENGER AGENCY, Shkoder

Soldier.....is travelling on a mission for
this Military Unit Hdqs. A seat must be reserved for him.

Political Commisar
(signature)

STAMP

Albanian People's Army
Headquarters Military Unit No..
Commanding Officer
(signature)

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[redacted] military training at the Artillery School -- Shkolla Artillerise Mbrojtjes Bregdetare -- in Durres, [redacted] alone on three separate occasions [redacted] by my military command to Tirana to buy stationery supplies at the N.T.L.A.P. enterprise (Ndremarija Tregtare Lokale Artikujvet Te Perzime). On each occasion [redacted] a simple Flete-Leje for a four-day period. The only formality was that this document had to be stamped upon arrival in Tirana and departure at the Garnizon Qytetit Tirane (Tirana City Garrison), Rr. Kavajes. [redacted] 5000 Lek in cash to cover travel expenses and the cost of the stationery.

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"[redacted] was sent with another soldier from the Artillery School at Durres to pick up at Puka some uniforms needed for various kursanti at the school to wear [redacted] went by bus and received in advance no cash to cover the price of the bus tickets. [redacted] reported to the Agjensia Pasagjeravet (State Bus Agency) in Durres -- about 10 meters from the main railway station -- and lined up with civilians and other military personnel. In routine fashion an S.SH. agent called for the identity documents of the travellers in the following order:

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- Military personnel in possession of a Flete-Izolimi
- Civilians in possession of an Urdher-Sherbimi
- Military personnel in possession of a Flete-Leje
- Other civilians

The civilians passed their identification cards (Leter-Njoftimit) to the S.SH. agent for use in preparing the bus tickets. Civilians with an Urdher-Sherbimi had to hand that document in also. The S.SH. agent merely glanced at the Flete-Izolimi and Flete-Leje documents of the military personnel; he did not retain them. The ticket line formed with military personnel (regardless of rank) in possession of a Flete-Izolimi coming first, civilians with an Urdher-Sherbimi next and military personnel (regardless of rank) with a Flete-Leje next. [redacted] Flete-Leje document), [redacted] verbally to the ticket officer [redacted] name and surname, date and place of birth, father's name, mother's name, destination. [redacted] have handed over [redacted] Flete-Leje for the ticket officer to copy, but [redacted] not compelled to do so; that is not normally done since all military personnel cannot reveal their missions or show their military documents to civilians. The same procedure took place at the Agjensia Pasagjeravet in Puka before the return trip. The only formality was that my Flete-Leje and that of [redacted] Kursant had to be stamped upon arrival and departure at the Garnizon Rrethit Puka (Garrison for the region of Puka). Note: the Flete-Leje for a military man on a mission (at least from the Artillery School at Durres) is signed by the C.O. of the unit or the Political Officer or both. It does not necessarily specify the nature of the mission. The Flete-Izolimi is given greater priority because it is issued for the more urgent missions. A military man might be carrying both a Flete-Leje and a Flete-Izolimi." 7

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(h) Flet-Hyrje (Entry Permit)

This document is issued by a military unit to:

- (1) Career NCO's and officers.
- (2) Civilians working for that military unit who must enter its installations and barracks

It serves for identification only within the unit which issued it. It is left at the main entrance of the unit, where it is checked by either the oficera roje (duty officer) or the n/officera roje post blok (Duty NCO, chief of the bodyguard of the block post at the gate).

25X1X [redacted] "As of 1949 a similar document was issued to all civilian personnel working in ministries of the government in Tirana." 7

The military Flet-Hyrje is a folded card of thin cardboard, about 2 3/8 inches. It is dark red on the outside, white on the inside. The left inside page has a picture of the bearer, with his signature beneath.

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"The stamp (vula) of the Shtabit (staff) of the military unit issuing the document is placed over this picture as well as over the signature of the Shefi Shtabit (Chief of Staff) of the unit on the opposite page." The right inside page lists the R.U. (Reparti Ushtarak - military post number of the issuing unit), the number of the Flot-Hyrje, the rank (grada) of the bearer, his name (emri) and surname (mbiemri). It is signed by the Chief of Staff of the unit. The date of issue is entered in the lower left hand corner of this page. The officer's signature is stamped.

(i) Libreze-Ushtarak (Military Book)

This document is issued to a soldier or NCO upon discharge from military service. It is issued by the Zyra Rekrutimit (Recruiting Office) to which the man is subordinate -- one of the regional Recruiting Offices, or that for the City of Tirana.

(j) Libreze Ushtarak Per Oficera Reserve (Military Book for Reserve Officers)

Issued to a reserve officer upon completion of his training, at the time of discharge.

(k) Libreze-Rekrutit (Recruit's Book)

Issued to a recruit the first time he is called up for military service, to do his Para-Ushtarak (pre-military training). It remains in his possession until he is called a second time, to do his term of actual military service.

(l) Librez Rroge (Military Pay Book)

"Issued to career officers and NCO's. If a Reserve Officer is recalled for a short period of service, he does not get a Librez Rroge. He is paid, not according to the officers' wage scale, a monthly allowance of 100 Lek plus free meals in the officers' mess.

"The Librez Rroge is a white booklet, 13 x 9 cms, with a white cardboard cover. The cover bears the serial number of the book. In the center of the front cover is a black star. The pages are not numbered. The contents of the booklet are as follows:

Page 1: Pay Book for NCO's and Officers

Serial Letter - A for superior officers, from Major through Major-General

B for inferior officers, from Aspirant through Captain 1st class

C for NCO's, from Reshter through Marshall

Serial Number, the same as on the cover.

Rank, name, surname, number of military unit of bearer.

Signature of the Political Commissar and the Commanding Officer of the military unit. / Sample was prepared

Signature of bearer, in lower left corner.

Signature of the Finance Officer of the military unit in the lower right corner. Also, date

Large stamp (vula) of the military unit placed in the center so as to cover part of all the signatures.

Page 2: Left blank

Page 3: Divided into columns, with four sections. The sections on the left indicate the following items to be filled in:

Number of military unit where stationed

Rank commissioned by the Ministry of Defence (M.M.K. -

Ministria Mbrojtjes Komitetare)

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Date commissioned
 Number of the decree
 Rank
 Name
 Surname
 Military Unit
 Finance Section, with signature of the Kujdestar of the
 sub-unit to which assigned within the command.
 Lek, in words and in numbers, to indicate the basic monthly
 pay.

The right hand sections are the same but filled in only if the
 bearer is transferred from one unit to another.

Page 4: Left blank

Page 5: Similar to page 3

Page 6: Left blank

Page 7-30: On each right hand page. Each of the printed pages divided
 into two parts, one for a month. The Librez Rroge is issued
 for a two year period / Sample prepared for 1952-53.7 A typical
 monthly box - top or bottom unit of a page - might look like
 this:

 JANAR 1952

No. (number of unit)

Seria (proper serial
 letter)

Grada (rank of bearer)
 Emni Mbiemni (name and surname)
 Date (date of payment)
 Rroga Baze (basic pay)

Lek

Each monthly part is detachable. When the bearer gets his
 monthly pay, the 20th of each month, he signs his name up the
 right hand side of the box. He also signs in the Bordero Rroge
 (Pay Roll). The monthly part is detached and handed to the
 Kujdestar performing the payment. It is attached to the Bordero
Rroge as a receipt.

Page 31: Shenim Mbi Urthen Sherbimi (Blank page with this heading). Page
 used for writing in work or mission orders. / Sample has the
 following typical order written in:

'Per order issued by the M.M.K. Ministry, Directorate of
 Communications (Mbrapavia) Finance Section No. 2311/17
 dated 21 Mar 52, Art. No/4, chapter No. 9, which provides
 that a premium of 25% of basic daily pay be granted in
 cases of isolated work, the Finance Section of the Military
 Unit No 1750, Durrës, paid to Marshall Abaz Rexhepi for
 15 days of isolated work performed per above provisions,
 the amount of Lek 625 (six hundred and twentyfive. (Signa-
 ture) Chief, Finance Section. (Stamp, date).'

Page 32: Blank

Pages 33-42: Front with the heading of Page 31, rear blank.

Page 43: Shenim Mbi Urthen Transferimi (Remarks pertaining to orders of
 transfer). Blank page with this heading. Used to record
 transfer orders. / Sample has the following typical order
 written in, in Albanian:

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'Marshall Abaz Rexhepi, member of Military Unit No. 1750-B, Durres, per order of the MMK Ministry No. 127/12 dated 15/IV/1952 is transferred to Military Unit No. 9092, Shkoder. Per provisions of the decree of the MMK Ministry, Directorate of Communications, Finance Section, No. 243/11, article No. 2, Chapter 7, a premium of 50% of the wage for military personnel with relatives [sic]. (Signature of the Chief of the Finance Section of the Unit, date and stamp).'

Pages 45-54: As above, with the rears blank.

Page 55: The last page is headed 'Shenim: V.O.:', which means 'Remarks: Attention (Veni Ore)'. It lists regulations governing the use of the Pay book, formalities in case of transfer and the necessity to inform the nearest Command in case of loss.

In case of transfer, an NCO or officer is entitled to 50% of the basic monthly pay for one month as a premium, but only when the holder of the Pay Book has family dependents. In case of a mission for X number of days, a NCO or officer is entitled to 25% of his daily wage multiplied by the number of days on mission. Out of this per diem stipend he must pay for his own train or bus ticket."

2. "To summarize the essential military documents:

- (a) Soldiers: Outside their military unit their identifying document is the Flete-Leje, occasionally the Flete-Izolimi, sometimes both.
- (b) NCO's: Those doing their normal military training or periodic recall, after the first discharge -- same documents as above.
- (c) Career NCO's: Outside their military units they carry a Flete-Leje, Libreze-Rroge, Flete-Hyrje, Flete-Izolimi (when on mission), Leter-Njoftimit (as any civilian).
- (d) Officers: Leter-Njoftimit-Oficeravet, Leter-Njoftimit (civilian), Flete-Hyrje, Flete-Izolimi (when on mission).
- (e) Reserve Officers: Libreze-Ushtarak Per Oficera Rezerve (during period not in service.) [Documents during recall periods not known to source]
- (f) Discharged draftees: Libreze-Ushtarak
- (g) Discharged NCO's: Libreze-Ushtarak

Army Reserve Corps

3. "The Army Reserve Corps depends on the Seksionit Mobilizim-Cmobilizim of the MMK Ministry. There is no organization for Reserve officers comparable to the Shoqat Invalidvet (Invalids' Association). [redacted] "The Seksionit Mobilizim-Cmobilizim includes a so-called Second Section for Reserve officers."

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4. "Soldiers and NCO's are redrafted three years after discharge. The call is made with a Flete-Thirrje for a period of three months [redacted] two months [redacted] During the period of re-draft, their Libreze-Ushtarak document remains in the possession of the Zyra-Rekrutimit concerned. For uniform they receive the type of rags issued upon discharge. If a redrafted man is working for a State institution, the members of his family receive his full salary during the time he is off in service. Redrafted soldiers and NCO's receive 100 Lek per month from the Army.

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5. "Reserve officers, up to the age of 35, are re-drafted every year for a period of three months of military service during the first three years following their first discharge -- when issued the Libreze-Ushtarak Per Oficera Rezerve [redacted] Reserve officers are re-drafted only three years after their initial discharge for a period of two months of military service [redacted] If they are employed by a State institution their full salary is paid to their dependents while they are doing their military service. From the Army they receive 100 Lek per month plus free meals at the Officers' Mess.

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6. "Every person in possession of military separation papers must comply with certain formalities when transferring from his place of residence to a locality under the jurisdiction of a different Zyra Rekrutimit.

- (a) Prior to departure his Libreze-Ushtarak or Libreze-Ushtarak Per Oficera Rezerve must be stamped by his Zyra Rekrutimit on the proper page. This procedure has nothing to do with the S.SH. If the person does not have his military document stamped he is liable to a fine of 2000 Lek.
- (b) Upon arrival at his destination his military book must be stamped within three days at the Zyra Rekrutimit of the region. Other civilian documentary procedures for travellers must also be followed.

7. "There are certain formalities also for citizens who performed their military service under previous Albanian regimes. We know that a check was made in 1949 and certain papers issued."

-end-

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